

White Stripes: Garage Rock in a 'Bigger Room'

MUSIC, From C1

cent marks one of those rare and wondrous moments when you look at the Billboard charts and think: *Sometimes the system works*. The band's fourth album, "Elephant," has outsold Madonna's latest, which is astounding given that just 18 months ago, hardly anyone but dedicated Spin readers knew their name.

If you've never heard them, the White Stripes are a bit like Led Zeppelin on a pauper's budget—



age to their forefathers and -mothers: a cover of Bob Dylan's "One More Cup of Coffee," a glowering take on Burt Bacharach and Hal David's "I Just Don't Know What to Do With Myself" and a tingle-inducing version of Dolly Parton's "Jolene." Blues legend Son House was resurrected through an electric slide re-imagining of "Death Letter." Meg stepped to the mic for her one tune, "In the Cold, Cold Night," but mostly spent the evening pounding the basics on her drums, and yielding the spotlight to Jack. The show ended

POP MUSIC

Al Kooper

Al Kooper probably has as many brushes with rock-and-roll greatness as any musician alive. To name but two: Kooper came up with, and played, the organ riff that carries "Like a Rolling Stone" during his first studio session with Bob Dylan, and produced "Free Bird" the first time he recorded Lynyrd



[The Washington Post]

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Style

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WHAT'S ON TODAY

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Arts

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Synchronicity Anniversary

By LISA TRAIGER
Special to *The Washington Post*

You can step, but can you dance? That was the challenge a young viewer once threw down to the dancers of Washington's Step Afrika! They can dance indeed. They pound the stage in churning syncopated rhythms, they rock, they break, they flip, they roll, and best of all, they step—the percussive art form made popular by the black fraternity and sorority movement at Howard University and now making its way to concert stages around the nation.

Step dancing, a uniquely African American dance form, relies on hard-driving foot stomps, syncopated hand clapping and body slapping, and, most interestingly, a form of call and response that both maintains discipline and pokes fun at competing groups or pop culture. There's also a fiercely competitive streak among the fraternities and sororities, which turns many step-dance competitions into elite displays of physical, rhythmic and oral dexter-

ity.

Saturday night at the Lincoln Theatre, Step Afrika! celebrated the union of two cultures on two continents. More than a decade ago Step Afrika's founder, Brian Williams, made a pilgrimage to South Africa, where he observed the striking similarity between the percussive step dancing of his college fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, and the traditional tribal and folkloric South African dances. From there, Step Afrika!, Williams's company of 16 smart, savvy, sexy dancers, was born. This month the company is to return to the Step Afrika! International Cultural Festival in Soweto for its 10th year—to teach, to learn and to reconnect with bonds that reside deeply in muscles and bones, in body and steps, of two distinct but linked cultures.

A Step Afrika! program demonstrates these connections through rhythm and spirit. There's a humorous evocation of the now-defunct pledge line, where willing fraternity pledges once subjected themselves to demanding, even militaristic bri-

gades charged with complex steps and chants. The women whip out some sharply precise moves of their own. In "Wade," the spiritual—a baptism—merges with the secular—percussive gumboot dancing—to an a cappella rendition of "Wade in the Water." Black knee-high Wellington boots figure in "Sebenza" ("Work"), demonstrating how men find release from the hard labor of the South African mines with boot-slapping, foot-tapping variations as crystalline as cut diamonds. Lesole Maine, a South African modern dancer, took inspiration in the natural environment of the African savannah for his evocative but long solo, "Uqinisufokotho" ("Brace Yourself").

The program also commemorated the life of Mbuyiselwa "Jackie" Semela, founder of Soweto Dance Theatre and co-founder of the Step Afrika! International Cultural Festival, who died earlier this year. The youthful exuberance of the Young Extreme Steppers, a high-energy group of 9- to 16-year-olds, opened the evening, and the fierce energy of the Step Afrika! traditional Zulu Dance closed it.



Step Afrika! celebrated 10 years of keeping its foot in two cultures.

DANCE PLACE

BROADCAST

	4 NBC WRC	5 FOX WTTG	7 ABC WJLA	9 CBS WUSA	20 UPN WDCB	50 WB WBDC	22 PBS WMPD	26 PBS WETA	32 PBS WHUT	
5:00	News	Cops	News	News	Paid Program	U.S. Farm Report	GED Connect.			Ne
5:30	News	News		News	Life in Word		Between-Lions			Ne
6:00		News	News	News	Changing Believer Voice	Consumer Corner	State Circle	Between-Lions	World News	Ne
6:30		News				Consumer Corner	World News	Cyberchase	MoneyWise	Ne
7:00	Today	News	Good Morning America	Early Show	Life Today	Consumer Corner	Caillou	Arthur	Evening Exchange	Go
7:30					This Is Your Day	Consumer Corner	Arthur	Clifford-Dog		Am
8:00					Sher. Holmes	Jerry Springer	Dragon Tales	George Shrinks	Journal News	
8:30					Stargate Infin.		Clifford-Dog	Caillou	Wall-Fortune	
9:00		Divorce Court	LiveWith Regis and Kelly	News	Moesha	Maury	Sesame Street	Beren. Bears	Hometown Yoga	Peo
9:30		Judge Hatchett			The Hughleys			Dragon Tales	Joy of Painting	
10:00	News	Divorce Court	Hollywood Sq. Pyramid	Montel Williams	Home Improve.	Judge Mathis	Jay Jay	Sagwa-Cat	America's Best Hawaii Cooks	John
10:30		Texas Justice			Home Improve.		Barney-Friends	Sesame Street		Sho
11:00	Ellen DeGeneres Show	Divorce Court	The View	Price Is Right	M*A*S*H	Jerry Springer	George Shrinks	Street	Wai Lana	The
11:30		Texas Justice			M*A*S*H		Teletubbies	Mister Rogers' Neighborhood	Body Electric	
12:00	Starting Over	News	News	News	Cops	Maury	Charlie Rose	Reading Rainbow	Charlie Rose	Ne
12:30		Judge Hatchett	Extra	Young and The Restless	Cops			Barney & Friends		Ext
1:00	Days of Our Lives	Good Day Live	All My Children		Ricki Lake	People's Court	Last of the Summer Wine	Arthur	Standard Deviants	All
1:30				Bold & the Beautiful			Keeping Up Appearances	Clifford the Big Red Dog	Standard Deviants	
2:00	Passions	Ambush Makeover	One Life To Live	As the World Turns	Crossing Over-John Edward	The Sharon Osbourne Show	Are You Being Served?	Dragon Tales	Jay Jay The Jet Plane	On
2:30		Classmates			Crossing Over-John Edward		As Time Goes By	Caillou	Hello Mr. Chuck	To
3:00	Dr. Phil	Judge Joe Brown	General Hospital	Guiding Light	Family Feud	Scooby-Where Are You!	Ballykissangel	Berenstain Bears	Berenstain Bears	Ge
3:30		Judge Joe Brown			Family Feud	Jackie Chan Adventures		George Shrinks	Sagwa-Cat	Ho
4:00	News	Judge Judy	Oprah Winfrey	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Pokemon	Arthur	Clifford the Big Red Dog	Sesame Street	Py
4:30		Judge Judy		Inside Edition	Moesha	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Cyberchase	Dragon Tales		Wh
5:00	News	News	News	News	Ricki Lake	Judge Mathis	Zoom	Cyberchase	Between The Lions	Ne
5:30							BBC World News	Arthur	Liberty's Kids	Ne
6:00	News	The Simpsons	News	News	The Hughleys	Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	BBC World News	Carib Nation	Ne
6:30		The Simpsons	ABC World News Tonight	CBS Evening News	That '70s Show	Steve Harvey		Business Report	Power of Ideas	AB
7:00	NBC Nightly News	Friends	Wheel Of Fortune	USA Tonight	King of the Hill	Parkers	Business Report	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	BBC World News	Je
7:30	Access Hollywood	Seinfeld	Jeopardy!	Entertainment Tonight	That '70s Show	Steve Harvey	Direct Connection		MoneyWise	Wh
8:00	Fear Factor	Next Joe Millionaire: An International Affair	Primetime Monday	Yes, Dear	Parkers	7th Heaven	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow	Pacing Change	Prim
8:30				Still Standing	Eve					Mo
9:00			NFL Football: New York Giants at Tampa Bay Buccaneers	Everybody Loves Raymond	Girlfriends	Everwood	Ken Burns American Stories	Ken Burns American Stories	Local News	NF
9:30	Average Joe			Two and a Half Men	Half & Half					Ne
10:00		News		CSI: Miami	Seinfeld	Will & Grace			BBC World News	Tan
10:30					Everybody Loves Raymond	Just Shoot Me	John Wayne: The Quiet American	Crown of the Continent	Big Picture	Buc
11:00	News	The Simpsons		News	Dharma & Greg	Will & Grace		Charlie Rose	Charlie Rose	
11:30	Tonight Show	Drew Carey		Late Show-Letterman	Dharma & Greg	Blind Date	Direct Connection			
12:00		Frasier	News		King of the Hill	Elimidate	World News	Ken Burns American Stories		Ne
12:30	Late Night-O'Brien	3rd Rock-Sun	Nightline	Late Late Show	Spin City	5th Wheel	Speaking for DragonflyTV	Ken Burns American Stories		Nig
1:00	Last Call	M*A*S*H	Extra	Becker	Extreme Dating	Ripley-Believe	DragonflyTV	Around Town		Jim
1:30		Paid	Celeb. Justice		Extreme Dating	Suddenly Susan	DragonflyTV			Liv
2:00	Tonight Show	Programming	Oprah Winfrey	CBS Up to The Minute	Paid Programming	Blind Date	DragonflyTV			Elle
2:30		Teach Me...				Street Smarts	DragonflyTV			Sh
3:00	Late Night-	Paid Program	ABC World			Parkers	DragonflyTV			AB